

CITY OF VENTURA

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Hazard Reduction Program Guidelines

Zone 1: Within 30 feet of structures

- **Chimney & Roof.** Remove portions of any tree or combustible material that extends within 10 feet of a chimney or 3 feet of a roof.
- **Leaves/clutter.** Remove leaves, needles or other vegetation on roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc.
- **Dead Vegetation Under a Building.** Remove all dead and dying trees, branches, shrubs or other vegetation adjacent to or overhanging structures.
- **Dead Vegetation & Grass.** Remove all dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds and needles and maintain annual grasses to a maximum of 4 inches in height.
- **Cover & Shrubs.** Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs so that groupings are limited to a 10-foot diameter and spaced 5 feet from any other groupings.
- **Vegetation below decks, etc.** Remove flammable vegetation and items that could catch fire which are adjacent to or below combustible decks, balconies, stairs, etc.
- **Wood piles.** Relocate exposed wood piles exceeding 55 cubic feet (approximately 2 feet deep by 5 feet wide and 5 feet high) outside of Zone 1 (30 feet from the structure).

Zone 2: Within 30-100 feet of all structures or to the property line

- **Cut Grass.** Cut annual grasses, weeds, and forbs to a maximum of 4 inches in height.
- **Trees & shrubs.** Maintain trees, large shrubs and hedges exceeding 6 feet in height so limbs are not within 5 feet of the ground or 1/3 of its height (whichever is less).
- **Wood piles.** All exposed woodpiles must have a minimum of 10 feet clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions.
- **Cover & Shrubs.** Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs so that groupings are limited to a 10-foot diameter and spaced 5 feet from any other groupings.
- **Surface & aerial fuels.** Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be permitted to a maximum depth of 3 inches.

Other Requirements

- **Logs/stumps.** Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from other vegetation.
- **Outbuilding/LPG.** Outbuildings and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(c)(1).
- **Address Numbers.** Address numbers shall be mounted on the structure, or an adjacent monument in contrasting colors (4-inch minimum size) and be readable from the street or access road.
- **Chimney screens.** Equip chimney or stovepipe openings with a metal screen having openings between 3/8 inches and 1/2 inches.
- **Hydrant.** Clear vegetation and obstruction within 3 feet of any fire hydrant.

For additional information regarding Fire Hazard Reduction Program guidelines, please contact us at 805-658-4717 or at fhrp@cityofventura.ca.gov